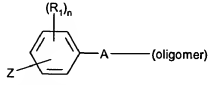
SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 1, line 29 and ending at page 4, line 6 as follows:

The present invention therefore in one aspect relates to a compound of formula

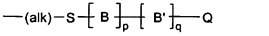


(1),

wherein R_1 is an electron-withdrawing substituent and n is an integer from 0 to 2,
Z is a group which functions as a ~~triggerable~~ precursor for carbene or nitrene formation;
A is a radical of formula

-C(O)-X-	(2a) or
-X-C(O)-	(2b); or
$-X_1$-C(O)-X-	(2c); or
$-X_1$-C(S)-X-	(2d); or
$-A_1$-C(O)-X-	(2e); or
- X_1 - C(O) -NH - R - NH - C(O) - X -	(2f); or
- X_1 - C(O) - R - C(O) - X -	(2g);

X and X_1 are each independently of the other a group -O- or $-NR_2$-, wherein R_2 is hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl;
A_1 is C_2-C_{30}-alkyl which may be interrupted by -O-;
R is linear or branched C_1-C_{18}-alkylene or unsubstituted or C_1-C_4-alkyl- or C_1-C_4-alkoxy-substituted C_6-C_{10}-arylene, C_7-C_{18}-aralkylene, C_6-C_{10}-arylene-C_1-C_2-alkylene-C_6-C_{10}-arylene, C_3-C_8-cycloalkylene, C_3-C_8-cycloalkylene-C_1-C_6-alkylene, C_3-C_8-cycloalkylene-C_1-C_2-alkylene-C_3-C_8-cycloalkylene or C_1-C_6-alkylene-C_3-C_8-cycloalkylene-C_1-C_6-alkylene; and
(oligomer) is
(i) the radical of a telomer of formula



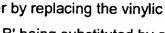
(3a),

wherein (alk) is C_2-C_{12}-alkylene,
Q is a monovalent group that is suitable to act as a polymerization chain-reaction terminator,

p and q are each independently of another an integer from 0 to 750, wherein the total of (p+q) is an integer from 2 to 750,

and B and B' are each independently of the other a 1,2-ethylene radical derivable from a copolymerizable vinyl monomer by replacing the vinylic double bond by a single bond, at least one of the radicals B and B' being substituted by a hydrophilic substituent; or

(i-i) the radical of a telomer of formula



(3a-a),

wherein (alk*) Q*, p1 and q1 each independently have the meaning of (alk), Q, p and q, B_1 is a 1,2-ethylene radical derivable from a copolymerizable vinyl monomer by replacing the vinylic double bond by a single bond, which is substituted by a radical -T-(oligomer^1), wherein (oligomer^1) independently is a radical of formula (3a) above and T is is a direct bond or a radical of formula

-C(O)-$(T_1)_x$-X_3-	(2a*) or
-$(T_2)_m$-NH-C(O)-X_4-	(2b*); or
-$(T_2)_m$-X_3-C(O)-	(2c*); or
-C(O)-NH-(alk**)-C(O)-X_3-	(2d*); or
-C(O)-X_4-(alk***)-X_3-C(O)-	(2e*);

T_1 is -O-C_2-C_{12}-alkylene which is unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy, or is -O-C_2-C_{12}-alkylene-NH-C(O)- or -O-C_2-C_{12}-alkylene-O-C(O)-NH-R_{13}-NH-C(O)-, wherein R_{13} independently has the meaning of R above;

T_2 is C_1-C_6-alkylene; phenylene or benzylene;

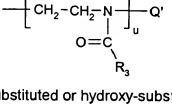
X_3 and X_4 are each independently of the other a bivalent group -O- or -NR_2', wherein R_2' is hydrogen or C_1-C_6-alkyl;

(alk**) is C_1-C_6-alkylene and (alk***) is C_2-C_{12}-alkylene, and

m and x are each independently of the other the number 0 or 1; and

B_1' independently has the meaning of B_1 or B;

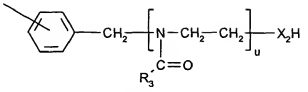
(ii) the radical of an oligomer of the formula



(3b),

wherein R_3 is hydrogen or unsubstituted or hydroxy-substituted C_1-C_{12}-alkyl, u is an integer from 2 to 750 and Q' is a radical of a polymerization initiator; or

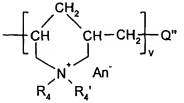
(iii) the radical of formula



(3b'),

wherein X_2 independently has the meaning of X above, and R_3 and u are as defined above, or

(iv) the radical of an oligomer of formula



(3c),

wherein R_4 and R_4' are each independently C_1-C_4-alkyl, An^- is an anion, v is an integer from 2 to 750, and Q" is a monovalent group that is suitable to act as a polymerization chain-reaction terminator;

subject to the proviso that A is not a radical of formula (2b) if (oligomer) is a radical of formula (3b) or (3c).